

ATF News

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Detroit Field Division

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ATF, WAYNE COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE ANNOUNCE SENTENCING OF INDIVIDUALS WHO ATTACKED ATF AGENT

DETROIT – The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) joined the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office today announcing the state sentencing of Maurice Leonard and Antoine Williams for their part in the armed assault of an undercover ATF agent. Leonard received a sentence of 30 to 60 years for assault with intent to commit murder and armed robbery, along with numerous other charges, while Williams received a sentence of 10 to 20 years for the same charges.

"I applaud Kym Worthy and the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office for their diligence in prosecuting this case," said Thomas E. Brandon, special agent in charge, ATF's Detroit Field Division. "The victim, a young undercover ATF Agent was held at gun point and viciously attacked by Leonard and two other accomplices. This undercover agent valiantly fought for his life and fended off three attackers before being rescued by a joint response team of ATF agents, Detroit Police officers and a Michigan State Police trooper."

"These defendants are violent and dangerous. They were armed and willing to attack an undercover ATF agent to meet their objectives. These lengthy prison sentences are needed to protect the community at large," said Assistant Prosecutor Maria Petito, who prosecuted this case.

On Oct. 16, 2007, an undercover ATF agent was assaulted while making an undercover buy of narcotics from Leonard. Derrick Carpenter placed a .45 caliber semi-automatic pistol to the back of the agent's head, while Leonard and Williams began to punch and kick the agent. Carpenter was shot by the responding agents and officers after he pointed the firearm at them; he later died from his wounds. Leonard and Williams were captured at the scene.

ATF is the lead federal law enforcement agency with jurisdiction in violent crimes involving firearms, and regulates the firearms industry. More information on ATF and its programs is available at www.atf.gov.